

Les Misérables

Book I, Chapter II

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Les Misérables

TRANSLATION NOTES

Book I, Chapter II

Page 3:

a - 'Yes, Brother': Baptistine refers to her brother as "onikissama," a particularly polite version of "Older Brother." It's typical in Japan to call your older siblings "older brother" or "older sister" rather than their names.

b - 'Of course it is...': Magloire uses polite form with the bishop, as she rather should, given her social status relative to him. That doesn't keep her down being rather blunt, though. She refers to the bishop as "shikyou-sama," or, roughly, Lord Bishop. I'm translating it as Monseigneur Bishop, which might be redundant. Feel free to correct me or chide it with suggestions. Sama is an honorific used to show great respect for someone of high social standing.

Page 7: 'That's all Monseigneur Bishop has...': Implying that a man of his rank really ought to have more fancy things.

Page 18: "Welcome!": The Japanese word for "welcome," "yukusama" is written out in normal type with hiragana, the small type usually used to show pronunciation of the kana, next to it saying "bawwena." (the French word "bienvenue," phonetically spelled out in katakana, is used for Myriel's nickname in this manga.) It's a nice little linguistic trick to give two layers to one word.

Page 19: 'The terribly great Monseigneur!': The characters used for Myriel's nickname literally translate as "big person-sama," as in big in stature both physically and symbolically. The "sama" honorific is one used for those of high social standing. Myriel's other nickname is, in Japanese, "Shikyou Shikyou sama, or "Bishop-sama, Bawwena."

Page 20: 'To Dream hymn!': The hiragana here I think adds another layer of meaning to the word "anaka," or "hymn"; unfortunately, I couldn't make sense of it. It's in katakana, the syllable alphabet used primarily for loanwords, and reads, I think, "Rutsumena."

(andyette notes: Based on my copy of the book, I can make a pretty good guess that it's the Christian hymn called 'To Dream', even though it doesn't match with the katakana.)

Page 24: 'It's a bishop's job!': More layers of meaning with the hiragana. In this case, the regular text reads "shikyou," bishop, with the hiragana reading "watashi," "I/me."

Page 24: 'For you...': "kissama," the version of "you" used here, is terribly rude, sometimes translated as "you bastard."

Page 33: 'I walked twelve ri...': Ri are from an old style of measurement, used before Japan adopted the metric system in the 1900s. 1 ri = 3,927 km or 2,440 miles. 12 ri are about 47 km or 29 1/2 miles. FMA gives the distance Jean Valjean walked as 33 miles, while Denny gives it as "a dozen leagues [about thirty miles]." No matter how you measure it, that is a LOT of walking for one day.

Page 48: '- leave me alone...kind madam!': There's some some things that I can't translate well, but basically Valjean whiplashes from none-too-politely telling her to back off to addressing her fairly politely.

BOOK 1 : FANTINE

Chapter 2 :

RIGHTEOUS PERSON MYRIEL

1806,
FRANCE,
PROVENCE,
DIGNES

DON'T BE
RUDE,
MADAME.

I HEAR THAT
HIS MAJESTY
THE EMPEROR
PERSONALLY
APPOINTED THE
NEW BISHOP.

IN OTHER
WORDS, HE IS
A HUNDRED-FOLD
MORE IMPORTANT
THAN A PRIEST,
RIGHT?

THE BISHOP
ADMINISTERS
100 PRIESTS
IN THIS
DISTRICT

YOU
FIGURE
IT'S THE
SAME?

LOOKING AT
A PRIEST OR
A BISHOP, IT
SHOULD ALL BE
THE SAME.

AH!

WHOEVER
RULES OVER
THE DIOCESE
IS A GREAT...

HERE IN
DIGNES, WE
ARE AT THE
PEAK OF
CATHOLICISM.



BOOK I

FANTASIE

Chapter 2

RIGHTEOUS PERSON

MYRIEL





4





5





WHERE
A 3 OR 4
PERSON
FAMILY
COULD
LIVE.

20 PATIENTS
WERE
CRAMMED IN
A HOUSE



BUT

YOU DON'T
WANT TO CALL
ME YOUR
SUPERLUCID
A. DIRECTOR.



AN OLD MAN,
HIS YOUNGER
SISTER, AND
THREE SERVANT
WERE

60 PEOPLE
COULD FIT IN
THE HOUSE
WHERE
THREE
PEOPLE



THE BISHOP'S
RESIDENCE
MUST BE
THE HOSPITAL.

THIS IS A
MISTAKE.

IT'S GOOD
TO CORRECT
THE ERROR.





FIRST TRANSLATION NOTES

7







HOW
WONDERFUL IS
THE VASTNESS
OF THE SKY.



HA
HA
HA



WELL,
LOOK UP
AND SEE
THIS.



YES, I HAVE AN ALLOWANCE FROM THE STATE OF 1500 FRANCS.



OF COURSE, THE AMOUNT OF A BISHOP'S INCOME WOULD BE DIFFERENT!

1500 FRANCS!











14



THAT'S
NOTEL
FOR YOU
—



SO
SHABBY
—

WHAT KIND
OF BISHOP
IS HE?

A
DONKEY
?

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HIS
GARRAGE?
WHERE'S HIS
ATTENDANTS
?



HOW
ARE YOU
DOING?

HELLO,
EVERYONE.



15







IF GOD
CANNOT
PROTECT
US,

WE
MIGHT BE
KILLED

HOW CAN
HIM'S
HAND
PROTECT?



WHAT
ARE YOU
AFRAID
OF?

BUT,
THAT'S
TOO
INSECURE.



I OWN
NOTHING.



A
ROBBERS
STEALING
THINGS.



17



HAVE
NO DOUBT,
AND HAVE
NO FEAR...



NO ONE IS
REFUSED.

IT IS
ALL
RIGHT.

PEOPLE
LOVE ONE
ANOTHER.



18

"BEE" TRANSLATION NOTES





*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES

19





"BROTHER
GIVES HIS
PERSONAL
PROPERTY

ENTIRELY TO
THE POOR
PATIENTS.

28



DOES NOT
ACT TO
PROTECT
MY LIFE,

IN THE
WORLD,
BROTHER

BUT
TO PROTECT
THE SOULS OF
HUMANITY, AS I
UNDERSTAND
IT.



NEVERTHE-
LESS,
WE ARE
ALWAYS
HAPPY.

THUS, WE HAVE
SIMPLY HAD
OUR LIVES LIT
BY THE LIGHT
OF FIREWOOD.



THERE
WAS THE
EVENT
LAST
YEAR.

THE
CATHEDRAL'S
TERRAIRES
HAD BEEN
TAKEN BY
A TERRIBLE
BANDIT,
HIDDEN IN THE
COUNTRYSIDES.



HOWEVER,
THERE



BROTHER
SET OUT
ALONE TO
HAVE HIS
ROUND OF
VERY SMALL
VILLAGES.

DEEP
IN THE
MOUNTAINS.

IF THE
BANDIT
ATTACKED
HE'D LOSE
HIS LIFE.

EVERYONE
SAID IT WAS
DANGEROUS
AND NOT TO
GO.

BUT
BROTHER
DIDN'T
LISTEN.



BROTHER
WAS
KILLED.

OR SO
EVERYONE
THOUGHT
UNTIL...

THERE
WAS NO
WORD
FROM HIM
FOR 15
DAYS.



HE GAVE
BACK THE
CATHEDRAL'S
TREASURES.

EH?

I WAS
WITH THE
MONK.

BROTHER,
HOW
WONDERFUL
THAT YOU'RE
SAFE!

WE
WERE
WORRIED !!

I WANTED TO
HAVE FORMALITY
IN THE POOR
VILLAGE, AND
SEND THE
700 SILVER MONKS.
YOU SEE.

THESE WERE
BASICALLY
DECORATIONS
AND
VESTMENTS

OR COULD
THEY BE
SENT TO
THE POOR?

SHOULD
THEY BE
RETURNED
TO THE
CATHEDRAL

THAT WAS
SURELY A
PROBLEM
...

BUT NOT
ONE WORTH
WAVERING
ABOUT.

NOT
THE DEVIL.

HE STOLE
THOSE ITEMS
FROM THAT
CATHEDRAL
...

IT'S THE
QUANTITY OF
THE DEVIL

GOD.

THOSE
TREASURES
WAS ...

WHERE DO
THEY GO
AFTER-
WARDS?

THE
CHAPLAIN'S
SUBSTITUTE
?"

AND A
SUBSTITUTE
WAS NEEDED
TO BE PRESENT
FOR A DEATH
PENALTY.

ONE TIME,
THIS
TOWN'S
CHAPLAIN
DIED.

THIS
ALSO
HAPPENED.

MORE
IMPORTANTLY,
THAT IS NOT
MY JOB!

THERE'S
NOTHING I
COULD DO
FOR
THAT MAN
SENTENCED
TO DEATH!

YES...
MONSIEUR
BISHOP.

THE PRIEST
WAS LIKE
THAT?

THAT IS NOT
A JOB FOR
A PRIEST.

THE PRIEST
SPOKE THE
TRUTH

THE DAY OF
EXECUTION IS
APPROACHING.

WHAT
SHOULD
WE DO?

BROTHER
IMMEDIATELY
HEADED OUT
FOR THE
PRISON

AND THE
STORY IS, HE
CALLED THE
SENTENCED
MAN BY HIS
NAME AND
TOOK HIM BY
THE HAND

IT'S A
BISHOP'S
JOB*.

*SEE TRANSLATION NOTE

TRIED TO KILL
THE DESPAIR
WITHIN, TO
ALLEViate WITH
THE SOUL OF
OUR LADY.

NOTHING
BUT
SINCERE
PRAYERS.

AND TO
TRANSFER
HOPE FROM
GOD.

BLESS-
INGS,
AND

24

HOW MUCH DID
WITNESSING
THE DEATH
PENALTY
SHOCK BROTHER?

I HEAR
THE MAN
UP UNTIL
THE TIME OF
HIS DEATH,
HAD A
PEACEFUL
COUNTERANCE.

THE
SENTENCE
WAS
RITUALLY
CARRIED
OUT.

I KNOW THAT
EVER SINCE,
EVEN NOW,
WHEN HE GOES
ON A TRIP, HE
AVOIDS THAT
PLACE OF
EXECUTION.

PERCEIVING
DEATH
WITH AN
UNTROUBLED
FACE
...

AND YET,
HUMANS
JUDGE
HUMANS
...

HIS DEATH
IS SOLELY IN
THE HANDS
OF GOD
.....



AND THE CHILDREN
WHO'VE
LOST THEIR
MOTHER
BEING
NEAR,

FOR THE
WIFE
WHO'S
LOST HER
HUSB,

BROTHER
HAD LOVE
FOR THEM
ALL—



ARE NOT
ONLY FOR
THE DEAD,

BROTHER'S
PRAYERS
AND FAITH

BUT ALSO
FOR THE
LIVING.

25



HE TRIES
TO TURN
TOWARDS
THAT
ARROW.

BEFORE
IT.

AND PEOPLE
WHO LOOK
DOWNWARD

IN
FRONT
OF A
GRAVE.

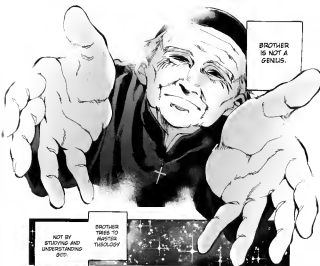


"SOULS
OF LOVE
ASCEND
TO
HEAVEN."

"LOOK
AT THE
STARS."

"GOD IS WITH
US, KINDLY
WATCHING
OVER ...",
HE SAYS.





BROTHER
IS NOT A
GENIUS.

NOT BY
STUDYING AND
UNDERSTANDING
GOD.

BROTHER
TRIES TO
MASTER
THEOLOGY



THAT IS
ENOUGH.

EVEN IF HE
CANNOT REACH
THEM, HE STILL
UNDERSTANDS
THAT THE
STARS ARE
BEAUTIFUL.



RATHER,
HE IS AFRAID
TO REACH
THAT STATE.

HOWEVER,
BROTHER
HAS NO
GOOD.



BROTHER
HIS
CHOSEN AN
EXTREMELY
SIMPLE PATH.

BUT I
THINK

HE DOESN'T
UNDERSTAND
DIFFICULT
THINGS

THAT HIS PLAN
IS TO TAKE
THE PATH OF
SAVING
PEOPLE ON
EARTH.

29

I THINK
THAT I AM
VERY GLAD

TO BE
UNDER
SUCH A
BROTHER.





30





31





32



1815

OUTSKIRTS
OF DIGNES

PREFECTURAL
BORDER



23





* SEE TRANSLATION NOTES





hooowl...





SORRY,
BUT OUR
ROOMS
ARE FULL.



IT'S
RESERVED,
THERE'S NO
EXTRA.

IF THAT'S THE
CASE, JUST
SOMETHING TO
EAT WOULD BE
FINE.



I WON'T
FEED THE
LIVES OF AN
EX-CONVICT!



YOU
KNOW
WHY...



IF THERE
ARE NO
ROOMS,
A CORNER
OF A
STOREROOM
WOULD BE
FINE!

IF IT'S
MONEY,
DEBUT I
HAVE IT!

* SEE TRANSLATION NOTES 37



YOU
DISAPPOINT
ME!

I WALKED
TWELVE KM
IN THIS COLD
WITHOUT EATING
ANYTHING...

AT LEAST
ONE CUP OF
THAT SOUP!!



38











48





49







I AM
NOT

NEEDED BY
ANYBODY...



WELL,
AT LEAST

DON'T
WASTE,
YOU
G. IRBAG

45



YOU WON'T
BE TROUBLE
TO SOCIETY.



FOR THE CRIME
OF STEALING A
LOAF OF BREAD
FOR THE SAKE
OF STARVING
CHILDREN,

THE
LAW,

SOCIETY,

GOD,

**ETERNAL
PUNISHMENT**

WILL NOT
FORGIVE ME
UNTIL I DIE—



47





LEAVE
ME
ALONE.



I'M
WORRIED.

YOU
DON'T
HAVE
MONEY
FOR...



THE NIGHT WIND
FROM THE ALPS
IS HARSH.



KIND
MADAM.*

I SAID
LEAVE ME
ALONE...

48

*SEE TRANSLATION NOTES



OH MY
...

BUT I WAS
DRIVEN
AWAY.



THAT'S
WHAT I
ASKED
FOR,

FOR
SHELTER.



THAT'S
RIGHT,
WITHOUT
MONEY, AN
INN IS
USELESS.

KIND?

BUT A KIND
PERSON
COULD GIVE
SHELTER.



NO MORE
I AM.

NO MATTER
WHICH HOUSE
I VISIT, THE
ANSWER IS
THE SAME.

IT'S
FINE.
LEAVE
ME
ALONE!



HEY!

I'M
GOOD
ENOUGH
!!

YOU'VE
.....



THAT
HOUSE
OVER
THERE?



WHICH
HOUSE
DID YOU
VISIT?





50





BROTHER?



HUH?

VAGUELY.

DID YOU
HEAR
HAGLORE'S
STORY?



YES,
WHEN I
WENT OUT
TO PURCHASE
SUPPER, I
HEARD THE
GOSSIP.

TRULY?

EVERYONE
IS TALKING
ABOUT IT -
IT'S THE
TALK OF
THE TOWN!



I'LL TELL
IT ANY
NUMBER
OF TIMES!

YES,
IT'S FINE!

81



A MAN
WHOSE
BEARDED
FACE IS
TERRIFYING
IT

I SAID,
HERE IN
DIGNES,
A BRUTAL
EX-CONVICT
HAS COME
AROUND!



52





53





54

